20: Serjeant U-4 (no date) 1950 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

Metre : Ramal, ||— — ∪ — | — — ∪ —

شَيْخنَا عَلْوِى بِنْ أَحْمَدْ

4. Al-Nuwaidarah

The patron saint of al-Nuwaidarah is Šihāb al-Dīn ʿAbd al-Raḥmān bin ʿAlī bin Abī Bakr al-Sakrān [16].

5. Ḥārat al-Ḥāwī

The tanṣūrah of this quarter mentions the saint of the ḥawṭah šaiḫanā al-Ḥaddād, i.e. the celebrated saint and author ʿAbdullāh al-Ḥaddād who is also known beyond the confines of Ḥaḍramawt.

It would however seem that the term tanṣūrah is not confined to the rallying-cries of the quarters of the cities, for I can recall the word being used in the Daṯīnah area when tanṣūrahs were performed over the grave of a man whose murder had been successfully avenged. It is a cry used also by the tribes [17] in Ḥaḍramawt.

Very similar to the Tamīmī tanṣūrah quoted by Landberg [18] is the tanṣūrah of the ʿAbīd of Tarīm. The ʿAbīd have an organisation in many respects similar to that of the Masākīn with a headman (muḳaddam). Their tanṣūrah runs :

بَنِى سِوَيْدَ ٱلْغَلَّابَه

كَمْ مِنْ قَبِيلِى ظَفِرْنَا بِه

« Banī Siwaid, the conquering,
How many a tribesman have we overcome. »

Landberg remarks that the verse he quotes is defective, if one must see a metre in it, but the first half-verse which he gives corresponds exactly in metre to the first half-verse of the tanṣūrah of the ʿAbīd.

[16] « The Drunken » might, at first sight, seem an odd term to apply to a Muslim saint, but the term of course is Sufistic, and implies that he was drunk with the ecstacy of the knowledge of God. Some names are much more curious. I was told that the ʿAṭṭās saiyids derived their name from a miracle performed by their ancestor who is said to have been heard to sneeze while still in the womb!

[17] C. DE LANDBERG, *Ḥaḍramoût* (Leiden, 1901), p. 184.

[18] Loc. laud.